

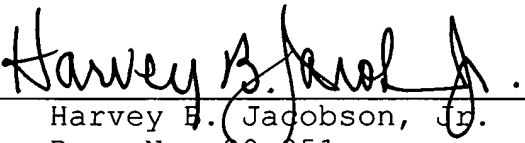
**REMARKS**

The foregoing Preliminary Amendment is requested in order to delete the multiple dependent claims and avoid paying the multiple dependent claims fee.

Early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Atty. Docket: P70882US0  
Date: November 7, 2005  
HBJ/cmf